



Statement of APSCO Delegation

at the Sixty-seventh Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Vienna, 19–28 June 2024

M-Building, M-Plenary room

Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria

Agenda Item 5. General Exchange of Views

Honorable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

It is my privilege to make this statement on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO), regarding the Agenda Item No. 4. General Exchange of Views. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as the new chairman of the COUPUOS.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation has full trust and confidence in your leadership to steer this committee, and we extend our full support to you and to the work of the COPUOS. We also extend our appreciation to Ms. Aarti Holla-Maini, the Director of UNOOSA, and her team, for very efficient planning, and successfully organizing this session.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

APSCO as an inter-governmental international organization is devoted on tapping regional resources, promoting multilateral cooperation and capacity building in space related fields. It provides a cooperative mechanism for countries to work together for the development of space capabilities and collaborative space programs. APSCO currently has fourteen Member States. This year we welcome two new observer members, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Arab Union on Space Sciences and Astronomy (AUASS).

Mr. Chair,

APSCO has been actively participating at the UNCOPUOS and its sub committees' s meetings since its inception in 2008. APSCO strongly adheres to the importance of strengthening international collaboration, promoting United Nations treaties on outer space, fostering fair access to space' encouraging knowledge-sharing initiatives, and focusing on ways to promote international, regional and interregional cooperation. During the Leadership Development Forum of APSCO in November 2023 in Peru, the leader from APSCO Member States released a joint statement in which they emphasized and supported UNCOPUOS to act as a central body for making the rules and laws in space.

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Some of the recent activities of APSCO that contribute to the agenda an objective of the UNCOPUOS include:

- Under the APSCO 5-Year Project Implementation Plan (2021-2025) that supplements realization of the 10-Year Plan, there are 34 projects included in the fields of Space Science, Technology and Applications, Space Education, Training and Capacity Building.
- As a basic facility for sharing space-derived data, and promoting application of satellite remote sensing, the APSCO Data Sharing Service Platform (DSSP) has been actively utilized through 35 Certified Users in all APSCO Member States. The upgraded version of the Platform provides Earth-observation data in more extensive and responsive manner.
- APSCO has established a Working Group for Joint Study on International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) initiative. More than 50 experts and scholars from APSCO Member States have joined the team.
- For disaster monitoring and management, APSCO has started to establish a Disaster Response Mechanism – APSCO Charter, providing emergency response mechanism among our members.
- In the domain of space science and space observation, a network of 11 telescopes is being established, consisting of 50 cm telescopes in all member state of APSCO.
- We also just inaugurated the APSCO Space Law Alliance in February 2024, which is a network of 39 space organizations, institutions, and universities from Member States of APSCO to promote research and capacity building in space law and policy.

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Furthermore, I would like to share that the 3rd APSCO Leadership Development Forum 2024 shall be held back-to-back with the 18th Council Meeting of APSCO in Antalya, Türkiye from 25-29 November 2024. The leadership forum shall provide a high-level platform to carry dialogue and discussion on contemporary issues and the potential role of developing countries in space domain. Also, this year, in cooperation with Sharjah University, and Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Science (AUASS), APSCO is going to organize the international symposium on Developments in Space Communications-The Regional Balance and Challenges, from 5-7 November 2024, Sharjah, UAE. I welcome all the relevant experts and organizations to join us in the symposium.

I thank you all for your attention.

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Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization (APSCO)